(c) whether the Government have approached the two Governments recently indicating our country's position vis-a-vis Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) the proposal of the Government towards the solution of the problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (d) The full restoration of the political process in Jammu and Kashmir has been welcomed by Britain and the United States. Both countries have also condemned terrorist violence in the State. The country's position regarding Jammu and Kashmir, which has been a victim of proxy war and cross-border terrorism, has been made known to the international community including Britain and the United States. The Government is resolved to take all necessary steps to safeguard the security and territorial integrity of the country.

Buildings on Agricultural Land

6203. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred question No. 2161 dated December 21, 1994 and 5142 dated September 11, 1996 regarding buildings on agricultural land and state:

(a) whether the land has since been reconverted for agricultural use in regard to the 2714 cases in which orders under section 81 of Delhi Land reforms Act, 1954 have been passed or the land has been vested in the Gram Sabha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been no progress in this regard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard; and

(e) the number of cases of unauthorised construction on agricultural land since January 1, 1994, the details thereof and the reasons for the revenue officials having failed to check the coming up of those buildings and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the revenue officials and their seniors who failed to exercise proper supervision over their juniors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allotment of Land

6204. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answers given to USQ Nos. 1704 and 3748 dated July 24, 1996 and December 18, 1996 regarding allotment of land respectively and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Thermal Power Stationa in A.P.

6205. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Thermal Power Stations in Andhra Pradesh have achieved a plant load factor of 78.2 per cent during the financial year 1996-97;

(b) if so, the target fixed by the Central Electricity Authority and the overall power generated by each station;

(c) whether the Vijayawada Thermal Power Station has achieved a plant load factor of 93.12 per cent which is the highest in the country during 1996-97;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to be increased during 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) During 1996-97 the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board was 78.3 per cent.

(b) Station-wise details of energy generation and PLF during 1996-97 is given below :

Name of the Station	Energy Target	Gen. (MU) Actual	PLF Target	(%) Actual
1	2	3	4	5
Kothagudam	3961	3524	58.8	60.0
Vijayawada	9450	10286	85.6	93.2
Ramagundam B	400	379	73.1	69.2

1	2	3	4	5
Nellore	120	110	45.7	41.9
Royalseema	2800	2454	76.1	66.7
APSEB	16731	16753	75.5	78.3
NTPC Ramagundam	14500	15644	78.8	85.0

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The PLF of Vijayawada Thermal Power Station during 1996-97 was highest at 93.2% as against the target of 85.6%.

(e) Efforts shall be made to further improve the generation during 1997-98 to the extent possible.

C.D. Ratio of RRB

6206. SHRI UDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the Regional Rural Banks where the Credit-Deposit ratio has gone below 40%; and

(b) the details of action taken by the Reserve Bank of India against those banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), there are 78 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) where the Credit Deposit (C.D.) Ratio is less than 40% as on 31.3.96. The details are as follows :-

		Number of RRBs with C.D. Ratio below 40% as on 31.3.96. (Provisional)
1	Arunachal Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	2
3.	Bihar	17
4.	Gujarat	2
5	Haryana	1
6	Himachal Pradesh	2
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	3
8.	Madhya Pradesh	14
9.	Maharashtra	2
10.	Meghalaya	1
11	Mizoram	1
12.	Nagaland	1
13.	Punjab	1
14.	Rajasthan	7
15.	Uttar Pradesh	21
16.	West Bengal	2
	Total	78

(b) NABARD have reported that some of the important reasons for low C.D. ratio are :

(i) Low credit absorption capacity on account of reasons such as backwardness of area, low level of business/industrial activity and non-availability of infrastructural facilities; and

(ii) Rapid growth in deposits as compared to increase in loan disbursements.

The monitoring of credit performance of banks, including RRBs, is regularly done at fora such as State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) and District Consultative Committee (DCC) where reasons for low C.D. Ratio are discussed and necessary corrective measures are either taken or suggested. Further, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NABARD have, time and again, impressed upon these banks through persuasive measures to improve their C.D. Ratio

Passport to Indian Citizens

6207. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state :

(a) the guidelines governing grant of Passport to Indian Citizens,

(b) whether the procedure for granting passport have been simplified;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the regional passport offices in the country alongwith the locations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The issue of passports to Indian citizens is governed under the Passport Act, 1967 and the Passport Rules, 1980, framed under Section-24 of this Act, as amended from time to time.

(b) and (c) A number of steps have been taken to simplify and streamline the procedures for expeditious issue of passports which, inter-alia, are :

(i) upgradation of office facilities including computerisation leading to faster screening and processing of applications;

(ii) simplification of passport and miscellaneous services forms;